

Jan. 17, 2013

Representative Mike Cuffe, Chair
Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on Natural Resources and Transportation
Montana House of Representatives
P.O. Box 200400
Helena, Montana 59620-0400

The following By Linda Still
EXHIBIT 2
DATE 1.21.13
HB 2 JAN 17 2013

Gary Forrester

RE: HB2 -- Base Funding for the DEQ Subdivision Section

Dear Mike Cuffe,


I support the HB2:

The reason for the base funding is summarized as follows:

The Subdivision Program is 100% fee funded. During periods of slow subdivision activity the incoming fee revenue is insufficient to fund even the very basic program to assure that reviews are performed in a timely manner and the basic program administrative needs of the program are met. In order to assure base program needs can be accomplished even during period of reduced subdivision activity, a stable funding source is needed that is independent of subdivision review fees. General fund would meet that need. Funding in the amount of \$200,000 per year would assure continued operation of a basic program at all times.

Having adequate funding also helps to assure there is staff to deal with necessary rule revisions, questions on subdivision applications, legal opinions, etc. A stronger base staff means that when economic conditions improve and more subdivision activity occurs, there will be trained staff to process applications and generally support our requests for services.

Thank You,


Laura Brusky, RS
Cascade County

NAME
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